

Applic. No. 09/694,569

Amdt. dated April 8, 2004

Reply to Office action of January 8, 2004

Claim Amendments

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently-amended): A method of aligning a rubber blanket configuration relative to a clamping device having register pins, for clamping the rubber blanket configuration onto a cylinder, which comprises:

providing the rubber blanket configuration with a blanket material and a clamping bar having substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed therein; and

inseparably connecting the clamping bar to the blanket material; and

bringing the substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed in the clamping bar into contact with the register pins of the clamping device when the clamping device has been applied to the cylinder.

Claim 2 (previously-presented): A rubber blanket configuration, comprising:

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a rubber blanket having a blanket material and a clamping bar  
with substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed therein;

said blanket material having an upperside layer and an  
underside layer; and

said clamping bar being disposed only on said underside layer.

Claim 3 (currently-amended): The rubber blanket configuration  
according to claim 2, wherein said clamping bar is disposed  
only on an underside of said underside layer.

Claim 4 (previously-presented): The rubber blanket  
configuration according to claim 2, wherein said clamping bar  
projects beyond an edge of the blanket material.

Claim 5 (previously-presented): The rubber blanket  
configuration according to claim 4, wherein said edge is a  
leading edge of the blanket material.

Claim 6 (previously-presented): The rubber blanket  
configuration according to claim 2, wherein the register cut-  
outs are formed only in said clamping bar.

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Claim 7 (previously-presented): The rubber blanket configuration according to claim 2, including a sealing substance provided in at least one corner angle between the blanket material and said clamping bar.

Claim 8 (previously-presented): An assembly, comprising:

a rubber blanket configuration having a blanket material;

said rubber blanket configuration having a clamping bar with substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed therein; and

a clamping device fastening said rubber blanket configuration to a cylinder, said clamping device gripping only said clamping bar.

Claim 9 (currently-amended): A register system, comprising:

a cylinder having register pins;

a flexographic printing plate with substantially u-shaped register ~~cut-outs~~ cut-outs formed therein; and

a rubber blanket configuration having structures defining further substantially u-shaped register ~~cut-outs~~, cut-outs

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disposed in the rubber blanket configuration and corresponding to said substantially u-shaped register ~~cut-outs~~ cut-outs of said printing plate;

said substantially u-shaped register cut-outs and said further substantially u-shaped register cut-outs both corresponding to said register pins of said cylinder.

Claim 10 (previously-presented): A printing machine, comprising:

a rubber blanket configuration including a blanket material and a clamping bar having substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed therein;

said blanket material having an upperside layer and an underside layer; and

said clamping bar being disposed only on said underside layer.

Claim 11 (previously-presented): A varnishing machine, comprising:

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a rubber blanket configuration including a blanket material and a clamping bar having substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed therein;

said blanket material having an upperside layer and an underside layer; and

said clamping bar being disposed only on said underside layer.

Claim 12 (new): An assembly, comprising:

a rubber blanket configuration having a blanket material;

said rubber blanket configuration having a clamping bar with substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed only in said clamping bar and said clamping bar projecting beyond an edge of said blanket material; and

a clamping device fastening said rubber blanket configuration to a cylinder, said clamping device gripping only said clamping bar.

Claim 13 (new). A method of aligning a rubber blanket configuration relative to a clamping device having register

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pins, for clamping the rubber blanket configuration onto a cylinder, which comprises:

providing a blanket material:

providing at least one clamping bar;

forming substantially u-shaped register cut-outs in the at least one clamping bar; and

producing the blanket configuration by inseparably connecting the at least one clamping bar to the blanket material, for later installation of the blanket configuration onto the cylinder by bringing the substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed in the at least one clamping bar into contact with the register pins of the clamping device when the clamping device has been applied to the cylinder.

Claim 14 (new): A method of aligning a rubber blanket configuration relative to a clamping device having register pins, for clamping the rubber blanket configuration onto a cylinder, which comprises:

obtaining the rubber blanket configuration including at least one clamping bar with substantially u-shaped register cut-outs

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formed therein and a blanket material inseparably connected to  
the at least one clamping bar; and

installing the blanket configuration onto the cylinder by  
bringing the substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed  
in the at least one clamping bar into contact with the  
register pins of the clamping device when the clamping device  
has been applied to the cylinder.